Adulterated mid-day meal

*345. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many children fell ill after eating mid-day meal in their schools during the last three years in Delhi and other parts fo the country;

(b) the action taken against the school authorities for serving poor quality meal to the children;

(c) whether any standards have been fixed for the quality of mid-day meal;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reason therefor; and

(e) the reasons for not adhering to the standards?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Information has so far been received from 14 States and the NCT of Delhi, of which 6 States and the NCT have reported about children falling ill after eating mid-day meals during last three years. Number of such children and details of action taken as reported by them are given in the table below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of children ill	Action taken who fell
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1514	Implementing agencies have been replaced and disciplinary action initiated against school authorities. Disciplinary action initiated against Head Master, Teachers & Cooks.
2.	Karnataka	664	
3.	Madhya Pradesh	42	Disciplinary action initiated against School in Charge and the concerned Sarpanch.
4:	Maharashtra	94	Implementing agency has been replaced.
5.	Orissa	27	Foodgrains and pulses supplied to school were withdrawn by the authorities.
`	West Bengal	30	Pesticides spread in the agricultural field adjacent to the school had caused food poisoning. Immediate action was taken by Police & Civil Administration to stop recurrence of the incident.
7.	Delhi	703	Appropriate action was taken against defaulting NGOs and Service Providers by Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Information from remaining 14 States and 6 UTs is being collected.

(c) and (d) Guidelines of the Scheme lay down that the daily mid-day meal should contain 8-12 gms. of protein and 300 calories, and that it should be hygienic and wholesome.

(e) Inadequate availability of infrastructure and lack of awareness at the local level about nutrition and hygiene are some of the main reasons for instances of non-adherence to desirable standards.

Repeal of Married Women's Property Act, 1874

*346. SHRI S. P. M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to repeal the Married Women's Property Act, 1874 instead of making it effective to the present needs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have worked out any alternative arrangement before this Act is repealed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) At present there is no proposal with the Central Government to repeal the Married Women's Property Act, 1874.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Heavy Industries in Bihar

*347. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of heavy industries and public enterprises in Bihar under the administrative control of his ministry;

(b) the investment made in each industry/enterprise;

(c) the manpower engaged in each such industry/enterprise;

(d) the economic viability of the above industries/enterprises; and

(e) the steps being taken to improve health of each such industry/ enterprise?